ASSOCIATION-LONDON

DIEV ET MON DROIT

By the King.

A Proclamation prohibiting the Importation of forraine Gun-powder, and that His Maiesties Subiects may be constantly supplied out of His Maiesties Store-houses.

WHereas the Prouidence of Almighty God, amongst many other blessings to this Kingdome, hath furnished the same with Mines of Salt-Peter for making sufficient store of Gun-powder, for the Seruice and Defence of the same; And whereas his Maiestie out of His Princely care of the safety of His Kingdomes, hath so prouided for the digging and working of Salt-Peter, and conuerting and making the same into Gun-powder within His own Dominions, as that there shall be allwayes ready in His Maiesties Magazines or Store-houses, such competent proportions of good and serviceable Gun-powder, as shall be necessary, not only for his Maiesties owne vse, but for the supplies of His Subiects, for their expence at Sea and Land: His Maiesty therfore, for the better settling a work of such Importance as the making of Peter, and Powder in His owne Kingdomes; And that the makers thereof, appointed by His Maiestie, may receiue no interruption or discouragement therein; Doeth hereby signifie His Royall will and Pleasure to bee, And doeth straitly Charge and Command, That no person or persons whatsoeuer, either His naturall borne Subiects, Denizens or Strangers, doe at any time or times hereafter Import, or bring, or cause to bee Imported or brought into His Dominions of England, Wales, or Ireland, or any of them, or into any the Ports, Hauens, Creeks, or places thereof, any Gun-powder whatsoeuer, made, or to bee made in any forreine parts or places, to bee sold or put to sale here, vpon paine of the forfeiture thereof: The same Gun-powder to be seised to his Maiesties vse, And the moity of the value thereof to be paid to such person or persons as shall make seisure of the same, vpon his or their Deliuery thereof into his Maiesties Store-house; And also vpon paine of his Maiesties high Indignation and displeasure, and such further penalties and punishments as may be inflicted on the offendors, for the Contempt of his Royall Commandment in that behalfe.

And his Maiestie doeth also require and command all and singular the Officers of his Customes within all and euery the Ports of the same his Dominions, and the Creeks, and members thereof, That they, and euery of them, from henceforth wholly forbeare to take, or

make any Entries or Compositions, for the Custome, Subsidie, or other dutie for any Gun-powder, brought, or to be brought into any His said Dominions from any forraine parts, to be vttered or sold here: And also that they, and euery of them (whom it doth or shall concerne) do stay and seise as forfeited to the vses aforesaid, all such forraine Gun-powder as after the date hereof shall be by any person or persons conueied, or brought into any Port or Creek of the same His Maiesties Dominions to be vttered or sold, vpon paine of forfeiture of their Offices, and of vndergoing His Maiesties high Indignation and displeasure, with such further punishments, as their Contempts or defaults herein shall deserue.

And to the intent His Maiesties Subiects may from time to time bee duely supplied with Powder; His Maiestie, out of His Royall Care in that behalfe, hath giuen expresse Order and Command, that His Officers shall be prouided at all times hereafter, and shall haue in their custody in His said Magazines or Store-houses, sufficient quantities of Gun-powder, from whence His Subiects shall and may from time to time, buy, and haue therof, by greater or lesser quantities at their pleasures, so much good and seruiceable Gun-powder, as they or any of them shall require for their necessary vse and expence; And the same to be there sold and deliuered vnto them, at the rate and price of One shilling and six pence the pound, and not aboue, vntill His Maiesty shalbe pleased to giue further Order therein. And to the end that the Retailers of Gun-powder may be limitted to a moderate gaines thereby; His Maiestie doth hereby declare His Royall will and Commandment to be, That no person or persons that now dealeth, or hereafter shall deale in Retailing of Gun-powder within the Citie of London, and within thirtie miles thereof, or within thirtie miles of any of His Maiesties Ports, shall vtter or sell the same aboue the rate or price of One shilling eight pence the pound: But for such Ports or places as shall bee thirtie miles distant or more from London, or any His Maiesties said Ports, in such cases the said Retailers may sell the same at One shilling eight pence helf-peny the pound, and not aboue; which half-peny increase of price is allowed for the Land-Carriage of the same Powder.

And His Maiestie doth hereby further declare His expresse will and Pleasure to be, and doth straightly Charge and Command, That no person or persons Whatsoeuer, other then His Maiesties Makers of Gun-powder, who now haue, or hereafter shall be contracted with, shall at any time or times hereafter make, or cause to be made any Gun-powder, within any His Maiesties Dominions of England, Wales, or Ireland, or any of them, either by the vse of Hand-mills, water-mills, or otherwise, vpon paine of the Forfeiture as well of the same Powder so made, as of the Engines and Instruments to be vsed thereabout, and to haue the same Mills to be demolished, and the Offendors therein to bee further proceeded against in Our Court of Star-Chamber, or otherwise punished, according to their Contempts and Offences herein.

Giuen at His Maiesties Palace of Westminster, the twentieth day of February, in the twelfth yeere of His Highnesse Reigne.

God saue the King.

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